POL 23-9 LIBYA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

1972 Libyan 2606 9-23-69

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, NEA 13, IO 13, UCF 05, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02,
INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 03, RSC 01, PRS 01, SS 20, USIA 12,
OPR 02, SY 03, PC 04, ACDA 16, RSR 01, /156 W

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R 231017Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4911
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY BAIDA UNN
CINCUSAFE
CINCEUR/ECJC
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 12 JUL 1982
RDS[ ]or XD:[ ]EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS [ ]
DECLASSIFIED[ ] RELEASABLE[✓]
RELEASE DENIED[ ]
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 2606

SUBJ: ONE MORE STOP ON ROAD BACK

1. REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL SEPT 22 ORDERED ALL OFFICERS OF OLD REGIME SECURITY FORCES OF RANK CAPTAIN AND BELOW AND ALL ENLISTED PERSONNEL TO REPORT BACK TO DUTY SEP 23.

2. ONLY EXCEPTIONS TO RCC ORDER ARE ALL OFFICERS AND MEN OF MOBILE STRIKE FORCES. MINISTER INTERIOR, HOWEVER, PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED THAT QTF NATIONALIST ELEMENTS UNQTE OF FORMER MOBILE

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STRIKE FORCES WOULD BE MERGED INTO APPROPRIATE ARMY UNITS AFTER COMPLETION COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF ALL PERSONNEL WHILE OLDER MEN WOULD BE PENSIONED OFF. MINISTER ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT NAME OF QTE PUBLIC SECURITY FORCE UNQTE WAS BEING CHANGED TO QTE POLICE TO SERVE PEOPLE AND REVOLUTION UNQTE TO DISTINGUISH NEW ORGANIZATION FROM QTE TERRORISTIC POLICE SYSTEM OF FORMER REACTIONARY REGIME. UNQTE.

3. ALL ARMY TROOPS DISAPPEARED FROM STREETS OF TRIPOLI AND AROUND FOREIGN EMBASSIES MORNING OF SEPT 23. CHANCERIES ARE NOW GUARDED BY UNIFORMED POLICE PERSONNEL. IN CONTRAST PRE-

COUP PRACTICE, HOWEVER, POLICE ON EMBASSY GUARD DUTY (LIKE THEIR TRAFFIC POLICE BROTHERS) ARE NOT RPT NOT ARMED. QUICK CHECK OF CITY INDICATES THAT ONLY LOCATION WHERE SOLDIERS ARE STILL ON DUTY IS KHULD PALACE. NO EXPLANATION FOR THIS AVAILABLE AT THIS POINT. NO INDICATION YET WHETHER ARMY WILL RETURN TO ENFORCE CURFEW TONIGHT OR WHETHER RETURN OF TROOPS TO BARRACKS IS PERMANENT. GP-4.
PALMER